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BLACKWELL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR

1950

—o—

By

A. H. WEAR, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B.Hy.,

Medical Officer of Health

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Preface.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BLACKWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1950.

The most serious matters requiring attention are the abatement of over-crowding and the re-housing of families living in rooms, which apart from contributing to illness are a continuous cause of unhappiness.

Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough have been prevalent both in this area and in the surrounding districts.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for their continued interest and support, and also the members of the staff for their loyal co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WEAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

"Dale Close,"

100, Chesterfield Road South,

Mansfield.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (acres)	21,922
Population (Census 1931)	44,891
Population mid-year (Registrar-General), 1950 ..	43,250
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1950) according to Rate Books	11,594
Rateable Value, 1950	£175,635
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1950	£661

Social Conditions.

The district is divided into two parts, North and South. The Southern part embraces the Parishes of Tibshelf, Pinxton, South Normanton and Blackwell, and the Northern part, Ault Hucknall, Glapwell, Scarcliffe, Langwith, Pleasley and Shirebrook. The Northern area is more undulating in character than the Southern.

Coal mining and agriculture are the chief occupations. There is practically no unemployment and the standard of life for the inhabitants is satisfactory, although the housing standards are not very good, but water closets are rapidly taking the place of pails and privy middens.

Scabies.

37 cases, 4 adults and 33 children were treated at the Hostel. This figure is considerably lower than last year.

Verminous Heads.

39 school girls were treated at the Hostel. The shortage of Health Visitors is undoubtedly a serious handicap in dealing with this nuisance. Most mothers are anxious to co-operate in this matter and only the worst cases are sent for Hostel treatment.

Nutrition.

The general health and wellbeing of the school children has, on the whole, been maintained.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS:

Live Births—

		Total Males		Females	
Legitimate	.....	728	376	352	} Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 17.6. (crude)
Illegitimate	...	35	20	15	
Corrected birth-rate, 18.5.					
Still Births	.....	16	9	7	} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 20.5.
		Total Males		Females	
DEATHS	.....	467	244	223	} Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 10.1. (crude)
Corrected death-rate, 11.8.					

Deaths from puerperal causes—

		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Sepsis .....	.....	—	.....	—
Other puerperal causes .....	.....	2	.....	2.5
Total		2	.....	2.5

Comparing 1950 to a century ago, the population of England and Wales has more than doubled, and the death-rate is less than half. Typhus Fever and Cholera have disappeared entirely, and Smallpox virtually so. As causes of death, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid are becoming rare, and Measles and Whooping Cough are much less virulent.

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	51
Legitimate infants,	
per 1,000 legitimate live births	52
Illegitimate infants,	
per 1,000 illegitimate live births	25

INFANTILE DEATHS.

The Infantile death-rate of 51.0 is high compared with that of 29.8 for England and Wales. This is partly due to the death-rate from Enteritis and Diarrhœa in children under 2 years of age, the chief causes of which are insanitary dwellings, overcrowding, pail closets (causing the spread of flies), ignorance and neglect of personal hygiene. There were also eight deaths from congenital malformation.

It is interesting to note that during the first year of life the principal cause of death is congenital malformation, birth injuries and prematurity. In children of school age, 5 to 14 years, accidents are the highest cause of death, those in the home being slightly more common than those on the road. Between the ages of 15 and 44 pulmonary tuberculosis seems to claim the most, and from 45 to 64 years heart disease and cancer stand at the top of the list.

There were 64 deaths from cancer in this area (stomach 19, lungs 6, etc.). The Medical Research Council in an investigation lasting two years found strong evidence that heavy smoking is at least responsible for the increase in deaths from cancer of the lungs in this country. Apparently pipe smokers do not run so great a risk.

DEATHS FROM:—

Whooping Cough (all ages)	.. .	.....	—
Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	.....		3
Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....	64
Heart Disease	.....	.....	142
Violent Deaths	.....	.....	23
Road Accidents	.....	.....	4
Other Accidents	.....	.....	13

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1950.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population						Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis,	Total Deaths under 2 years under 1 year
England and Wales... ..	15.8	0.37	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.10	1.9	29.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	17.6	0.45	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.09	2.2	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (1931 adjusted) Populations 25,000—50,000 ...	16.7	0.38	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.14	1.6	29.4
London	17.8	0.36	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.11	1.0	26.3
BLACKWELL R.D.	18.5	0.3	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.9	51

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

Laboratory Facilities.

The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows:—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Enteric group of organisms ..	—	7	7
Brucella Abortus	—	2	2
C. diphtheriæ	—	32	32
Vincent's Angina	—	24	24
Hæmolytic Streptococci	6	35	41
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	1	51	52
*Water	12	38	50
*Ice Cream, Methylene Blue Test	19	87	106
Ice Cream, Coliform Test	—	—	—
Milk—			
Methylene Blue	1	40	41
Bacillus Coli	16	65	81
*Bacterial Count	—	3	3
*Phosphatase Test	—	54	54
*Turbidity Test	—	4	4
*Phosphatase Test, Heat Treatment Scheme	2	25	27
Tubercle Bacilli, Biological Test—			
Routine Samples	3	53	56
Min. of Agriculture	5	27	32
Brucella Abortus, Biological Test	—	2	2
Clinical Specimens	1	2	3
Totals	48	468	516

*Positive — Unsatisfactory.

Negative — Satisfactory.

In addition to the above, one T.B. sputum was examined at the Mansfield Laboratory. This proved to be negative.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

When the National Health Act came into force, the ambulance service was taken over by the County Council. Chesterfield is now the central depot (Tel. No. 4141).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE, AND SCHOOL CLINICS.

All these clinics are under the control of the County Council. A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held every week on a Wednesday afternoon at Shirebrook, and once a fortnight at Pinxton, South Normanton, Tibshelf, Langwith and New Houghton.

Ante-natal Clinics are held every Monday at Shirebrook.

A School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments is held every Wednesday morning at Shirebrook, and fortnightly on a Saturday at Alfreton.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

Held at Brimington Road, Chesterfield, on Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

VENEREAL CLINICS.

Derby Royal Infirmary :—

Males: Monday, 6 to 8 p.m.
 Tuesday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
 Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m.
 Saturday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Females: Monday, 3 to 5 p.m.
 Thursday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon,
 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Children: Friday, 10.30 to 11 a.m.

Chesterfield Royal Hospital :—

Males: Friday, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
 Tuesday, 5 to 6.45 p.m.

Females: Tuesday, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
 Friday, 5 to 6.30 p.m.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. The average daily demand in this district is 1.3 million gallons, supplied in bulk by the Meden Valley Waterworks Committee from boreholes in the bunter sandstone at Budby, in Nottinghamshire.

Regular periodic analyses of the water have shown it to be satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically.

The chlorinating plant is installed at the Budby Well and .32 parts per million of chlorine is added.

The water is 'not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

The Meden Valley Waterworks was originally constructed to supply Blackwell R. D. and Warsop U. D. in 1934. Now the district of Sutton-in-Ashfield, including Skegby and Teversal, receive most of their water from this source, and the Bolsover and Chesterfield Water Board take 293,000 gallons per day.

Additional Reservoirs.

The construction of additional reservoir accommodation has been in progress since 1948 at both Whiteborough and Stony Houghton. The structural work was completed during 1950, but the necessary preparations are being effected before commissioning the additional storage of 600,000 gallons at Stony Houghton and 3,000,000 gallons at Whiteborough.

Mains Extensions.

The following are among the water mains extensions which have been carried out during the year.

Hamlet Housing Site,	42 yards of 6-inch dia.
South Normanton	360 yards of 3-inch dia.
Hillstown Housing Site	30 yards of 3-inch dia.
Water Supply to Rylah and Stockley Hill, Palterton	1,800 yards of 1½-inch dia.

The hardness of the water continues to increase. In October No. 1 borehole showed 17.5, in November No. 2 borehole showed 19.6. This gradual increase in the hardness, which was only 7 when the borehole was first sunk, may be due to over-pumping and, as a consequence, the water is drawn from strata below the bunter beds.

Report on two samples of water taken on February 14th, 1950:—

Mark No. 1. Sample from tap, Meden Valley pumping station, Welbeck Colliery Village, 14th February, 1950.

No. 2. Budby pumping station before treatment, 14th February, 1950.

Bacteriological Examination.	No. 1:	No. 2:
Temperature on arrival	12 °C	12 °C
Number of colonies per ml. developing on Agar in		
3 days at 22 C	39	1
48 hours at 37 C	1	1
B. Coli Test: (MacConkey's Bile Salt Lactose Broth)		
Probable number of coliform organisms per 100 ml. ..	0	0
Free Chlorine ..	0	0
Remarks: Satisfactory.		

Water Supplies.

Parish	No. of houses supplied with district water direct to houses	Population (estimated)	No. of houses supplied with district water from stand pipes	Population (estimated)	No. of houses without district water using wells	Popula- tion (estim'd)
Pinxton	1,356	4,938	13	50	—	—
South						
Normanton	1,787	6,447	59	240	1	2
Tibshelf	943	3,960	2	6	—	—
Blackwell	1,098	3,691	115	405	2	5
Shirebrook	2,566	10,033	2	4	5	9
Scarcliffe	2,022	7,946	8	26	—	—
Ault Hucknall	542	2,123	—	—	—	—
Glapwell	282	1,023	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	672	2,637	—	—	—	—
Total	11,268	42,798	199	731	8	16

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

The following closet conversions have been carried out during the year:—

Scarcliffe	1
Blackwell	76
Pinxton	81
Glapwell	1
Shirebrook	70
South Normanton	47
Tibshelf	1
Total	277

One additional water closet has been provided in each of the parishes of Pinxton, Blackwell and Tibshelf, bringing the total number to 280.

The rate of converting pails into water closets has considerably increased and it is hoped that nuisances in this respect will soon all be eliminated, with consequent benefit to the health of the inhabitants and a diminishing of the Infantile death-rate.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Additions, extensions or improvements during the year.

(a) Hardstoft.

A modification to the original scheme, mentioned in my last report, has been provisionally approved by the Ministry of Health's Inspector, and preparatory work for the final submission to the Ministry is proceeding.

(b) South Normanton.

The proposed scheme for extending the existing work has been postponed due to extensive underground working and the consequent risk of damage through subsidence.

(c) Pleasley.

A joint scheme for these works with Mansfield Corporation's adjoining works has been abandoned; the Blackwell Council having decided to develop its own facilities.

(d) Stockley Sewage Works.

Ministry of Health approval of the extensions scheme was given during the earlier part of the year and later withdrawn due to the curtailment of National expenditure. However, permission was again given during the autumn to proceed with the work, but it was decided to defer commencement until the Spring of 1951.

(e) Sewage Analysis.

Regular and planned sampling of sewage effluents has been undertaken throughout the district.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

In the Northern Area 19 houses were treated; 8 for bedbugs, 1 for fleas and 10 for blackclocks and cockroaches.

In the Southern Area 30 houses were treated for cockroaches, 2 for woodbeetles and 4 for ants.

Housing.

78 houses and 10 bungalows have been erected during the year by the Council, and 21 by private enterprise. The total of 109 is much less than that of last year; the majority being at Glapwell, Langwith and Tibshelf. The slowness of building houses is the greatest public health problem this Council has to face, and it is one of the chief causes of misery and unhappiness to large numbers of people who live in overcrowded conditions, in rooms, or under insanitary conditions, and who have no prospect of getting any better accommodation.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	618
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1344
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	12
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	112
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	209

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 584

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 3
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—
 - (a) by owners —
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners —

2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 4
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—
 - (a) by owners 8
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners —

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 6
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 2
- (c) Number of dwelling-houses demolished by informal action 1

Mr. Wells, the Architect, has very kindly supplied me with the following table showing the rate of progress in the housing programme:—

Parish	Dwellings completed 1950		Dwellings completed up to May 31st, 1951		Dwellings in course of erection 1951, or contracts approved		Dwellings allocated 1951	
	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows
Blackwell	2	—	—	—	30	6	32	4
Glapwell	18	—	—	—	30	—	52	10
Hillstown	—	—	—	—	10	—	30	—
Langwith Maltings	30	—	10	—	18	10	56	10
Pleasley	4	—	—	—	—	—	54	18
Shirebrook	—	—	—	—	—	—	72	—
S. Normanton	—	—	12	2	70	6	—	—
Tibshelf	24	10	16	—	26	—	—	—
Total	78	10	38	2	184	22	296	42

Private enterprise erected 21 houses :—9 Ault Hucknall, 2 Blackwell, 1 Pinxton,
3 South Normanton, 5 Tibshelf and 1 Shirebrook.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

As all slaughtering of food animals, except emergency slaughters, takes place at Chesterfield Abattoir, no ante-mortem inspection is possible. Post-mortem inspection is carried out in respect of all notifications of emergency slaughtering, and all pigs slaughtered for home consumption where notification of such slaughtering is received.

Number of Animals slaughtered and examined in Southern Area:—

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Emergency	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cottagers	—	—	—	60	—	—
M/F temporary slaughter-house ...	100	38	65	—	876	151
	100	38	66	61	876	151

Condemnation for diseases other than Tuberculosis:—

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	2	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	75	16	19	5	117	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	75	42	28·8	8·2	13·2	6·0

Condemnation for Tuberculosis only:—

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Whole carcases condemned ...	4	—	1	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	2	15	4	—	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	50	5·5	10·5	6·6	—	2·0

In the Northern Area no notifications for private killing were received.

Clean Food Campaign.

In February new Bye-laws were adopted dealing with the wrapping, handling and transport of food, and it was considered that the best way of securing the compliance with these Bye-laws and achieving a higher standard of food handling was to show to the trade and public the necessity for such Bye-laws and improvements in the handling of food.

To achieve this a series of mobile Clean Food and Hygiene Exhibitions were held during November, in eight parishes. These exhibitions extended over two weeks, and were attended by 4,118 persons (including 2,493 school children over 11 years). The exhibitions included films, shown by the Central Office of Information, and stall exhibits dealing with Food and Drink Infections, Clean and Dirty Shops, Clean Milk Production and Delivery, Personal Hygiene, Hygienic Refuse Disposal and Infestation Control.

The films shown included "Another Case of Food Poisoning."

Prior to the staging of the exhibitions meetings were held in each parish, which included short talks on food hygiene, and each evening during the exhibitions the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector gave a short address on food hygiene.

A detailed report of these exhibitions has appeared in the "Rural District Review." The organisation of the exhibitions was carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and their staffs and necessitated much detailed planning and work outside normal office hours.

The exhibitions were very successful, were attended by representatives of adjoining Local Authorities, and there is evidence that they have resulted in improvements in the handling of food.

A special feature of the exhibitions was the attendance of senior school children and an Essay Competition on the purposes of the exhibition, with a district prize, and prizes for each parish. The essays submitted reached a high standard, and it is evident that the senior school children benefitted by their attendance.

Urgent Sanitary Requirements.

1. Abatement of overcrowding.
 2. Conversion of the pail closets at Pinxton, Blackwell and Shirebrook.
 3. Properties with one tap to four or five houses to have a proper water supply.
 4. Demolition of certain slum properties, particularly at Pinxton and South Normanton.
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National Assistance Act.

No person was removed compulsorily to hospital under Section 47 of this Act.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1950.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified At Ages—years													Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District								Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths		
	At all Ages	At Ages—years												Shirebrook	S. Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarliffe	A. Hucknall			Clapwell	
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & upwards												
Small-pox
Cholera
Plague
Diphtheria
Erysipelas
Scarlet Fever
Malaria
Enteric Fever
Encephalitis Lethargica
Puerperal Pyrexia
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Other forms of Tuberculosis
Pneumonia
Cerebro-Spinal Fever
Dysentary
Measles
Whooping Cough
Gastro Enteritis
TOTALS	714	39	40	83	99	113	260	31	5	22	12	6	4	127	38	86	33	68	123	144	50	45	177	8	

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified.

Every effort is made for children to be immunised. School children are having injections by the County School doctors, and infants by either their own doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinics. In all, 370 children were immunised, 157 school children and 213 infants.

Scarlet Fever.

195 cases were notified, compared with 209 last year. The disease was mild in character and was spread by direct infection.

There were no deaths.

167 cases were removed to hospital.

Where isolation can be adequately carried out cases are best left at home, but if the home is overcrowded or if there are other children this is not possible.

Infantile Paralysis.

7 cases were reported and all were of the paralytic type. The incidence was .16 per 1,000 of the population, compared with .02 for the whole of England.

Two of the cases were adults, one a school child and four were under school age. In no case had tonsilectomy or immunisation been carried out.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

326 cases of Measles and 135 of Whooping Cough were notified. There were no deaths.

Food Poisoning.

Two cases were notified, both babies a few months old from overcrowded houses where the standard of cleanliness was not too good. They had been fed on National Dried Milk. Only in one case was the dried milk sent for analysis but the report was satisfactory.

Sonne Dysentery.

One patient, a girl of 7 years, was notified from an insanitary house which had been scheduled for demolition and which was seriously overcrowded.

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the diseases during the year:—

Age Periods in years			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
5	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	...	...	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	...	...	6	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
45	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards			1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	...		16	8	3	2	6	2	—	—

The phthisis death-rate is .13 per 1,000 of the population.

Factories Act.

There are 40 factories registered in the Blackwell Rural District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	40	47	2
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	80	68	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—
Total ...	120	115	2

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):				
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	—	2

3.—Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing Apparel, making, etc.	34	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	7	—
Total ...	41	—

Reports of Sanitary Inspectors.

NORTHERN AREA.

Comprising the Parishes of Shirebrook, Scarcliffe, Pleasley, Ault Hucknall and Glapwell. 14,626 acres.

Sanitary Inspector: I. N. CREEAR, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

(i.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

(ii.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and other Foods).

(iii.) Member of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Offices: Cliffe House, Shirebrook.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

General Sanitation:

Water Supplies	.....	11
Drainage	.....	172
Stables and Piggeries	.....	13
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins		240
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences,		
Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	833
Fried Fish Shops	.....	74
Public Conveniences	.....	51
Factories and Bakehouses	.....	38
Refuse Collection	.....	240
Refuse Disposal	.....	115
Rats and Mice	.....	219
Cinemas	.....	21
Petroleum Acts	.....	53
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	.....	197
Inquiries re cases of Scabies	.....	49
Interviews and Appointments	.....	970
General Inspections	.....	141
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	740

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	328
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	631
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	198

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	18
Shops and Stalls	965
Street Vendors'	34
Other Food Premises	211

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	133
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HOUSING.

The position regarding materials and labour for repairs has been a little better than the previous year, but it is by no means satisfactory. Difficulty of obtaining timber and other materials are still existent, which necessitates interviews with various representatives and builders.

During the year 198 visits, compared with 203 last year, were paid to investigate the condition of applicants to new houses. Many of these had moved from their original addresses to other rooms which increased the amount of work in this respect.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The number of pails converted to water closets during the year was 72, comprising Shirebrook 70, Glapwell 1 and Scarcliffe 1.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

All complaints received are attended to and where necessary are treated by spraying and fumigating with block disinfestators. No re-infestations have been reported after

treatment, and tenants are encouraged to scrub and clean and thereby help themselves.

Gammexane is used to eradicate cockroaches, and has proved very effective.

During the year 19 houses were treated, 8 for bed bugs, 1 for fleas, and 10 for blacklocks and cockroaches.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Chesterfield Abattoir is still being used as the Regional Slaughterhouse for the area.

Careful attention continues to be given to all premises where food is stored and prepared for sale. A total of 784 visits were made for this purpose.

Unsound food condemned as unfit for food was:—

Pork and pork offal	75 lbs.
Beef and beef offal	40 lbs.
Tinned meat	125 lbs.
Tinned goods	1,245 lbs.
Cooked meat	60 lbs.
Cereals and pudding mixtures	117 lbs.
Fish	152 lbs.
Tinned milk	128 lbs.
Other food	32 lbs.
Potatoes	9 tons.
Eggs	235

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

No notification of private killing has been received since the Food Office was removed from Mansfield to Chesterfield.

Animals slaughtered at Chesterfield Abbatoir are inspected there before being delivered to the shops. It is, therefore, not possible to give the number of animals killed during the year.

MILK SAMPLES.

The following samples were submitted during the year for examination:—

New Milk.

Biological examination	9—8 satisfactory
	1 positive T.B.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-44.

Methylene Blue test	.....	1—satisfactory
Phosphatase test	1—satisfactory

Sterilised Milk.

Turbidity test	3—satisfactory
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WATER SAMPLES.

12 samples of the Council's water were submitted for Bacteriological examination, and all were found to be satisfactory.

15 other samples were obtained for various reasons, 10 of which were unsatisfactory. These concerned the Hamlet of Stockley, which were supplied by wells; a water supply has now been laid on.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Ice Cream).

The increase in materials available for the manufacture of ice cream has resulted in a greater number of applications for registration. These applications have been for pre-packed ice cream, and this method is increasing and less loose ice cream is being sold. After application, shops are inspected to ensure against contamination.

During the year 11 applications were received for registration, and all premises were kept in a clean condition, and I am pleased to say ice cream dealers accept willingly any suggestions made to them.

One registration was cancelled during the year owing to the loss of premises.

Samples were obtained for fat content in addition to those taken by the County Authority.

The results of Ice cream samples taken were :—

Grade 1, 30; Grade 2, 23; Grade 3, 3; Grade 4, 3.
Total, 59.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Shirebrook.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 2,566. Population 10,033.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 2.
Population 4.

Scarcliffe.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 2,022. Population 7,946.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 8.
Population 26.

Ault, Hucknall.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 542. Population 2,123.

Glapwell.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 282. Population 1,023.

Pleasley.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 672. Population 2,637.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

During the year regular examinations have been made of refuse tips and sewage works.

No serious infestation was reported and the regular routine work continued.

Premises visited	...	48
Rats destroyed	..	217
Clean baits laid	...	1,162
Poison baits laid	.....	379

Treatment of Sewers.

The usual maintenance treatment was carried out and 56 pre-baits laid. There was no evidence of rats.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Six licences were granted to occupy a caravan under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269).

The premises have been kept in a clean condition.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

63 inspections were made and on the whole the results were satisfactory, and no notices were served.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council now undertake the collection and disposal of refuse by direct labour in the whole of the Northern Area except for the Hamlet of Doe Lea and part of the Parish of Scarcliffe.

The work is undertaken by Motor transport and during the year 5,818 loads of refuse including cesspool contents and night-soil were removed, and 30,319 miles were covered for this purpose.

Four 2-ton Karrier Bantams and one Guy Vixant lorry are used for the work.

Bins are emptied weekly, ashplaces monthly, cesspools quarterly and closet pails weekly. In densely populated parts owing to large families, closet pails have been emptied twice weekly.

There has been difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory staff during the year, and it has been necessary in many cases to employ men who are not really fit to do the work. In spite of this the work has been kept at a satisfactory standard.

All dry refuse is disposed of by tipping and controlled as far as labour and materials permit.

The year's work carried out is given below :—

Month	Dustbins emptied	Ashpits emptied	Pail closets emptied	Cesspools emptied	Total No. of loads removed
January	23,826	52	6,315	8	493
February	20,731	11	5,431	11	424
March	25,249	64	6,453	39	593
April	20,831	51	5,542	8	413
May	25,044	26	6,172	34	509
June	23,032	41	6,089	13	522
July	21,131	—	5,348	6	390
August	25,002	44	5,929	18	491
September	21,545	88	5,194	17	408
October	23,900	50	5,700	28	514
November	23,476	34	5,459	27	549
December	24,551	22	5,321	18	512
Total	278,318	483	68,953	217	5,818

DISINFECTION.

Number of infected rooms dealt with	1,059
Bundles of bedding removed	289

One Morris van is used on the work of disinfection and treatment of Scabies for the whole District and during the year 19,824 miles were covered in connection with this work.

SALVAGE.

The total weight of salvage collected during the year was 157 tons as compared with 84 tons in 1949.

Included in this was 140 tons of paper as compared with 51 tons in 1949.

The collection of kitchen waste has had to be abandoned owing to the small amounts placed in the bins provided for this purpose. There are a great number of private pig keepers in the Northern Area who rely upon their neighbours scraps to help out their rations.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	466
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	821
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	65

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	438
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices— | |
| (a) by owners | Nil |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices— | |
| (a) by owners | Nil |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |
| (c) Number of dwelling-houses demolished by informal action | Nil |

I. N. CREEAR,
Sanitary Inspector, Northern Area.

Petroleum Acts	57
Rivers Pollution, Prevention	4
Inquiries re Cases of Infectious Disease	72
Inquiries re Cases of Scabies	33
Interviews and Appointments	507
Miscellaneous Visits	975

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	140
Re-visits to houses " "	371
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	12
Re-visits to houses " "	100
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	75
Re-visits paid to houses "	16
Number of verminous houses inspected	43
Re-visits to above houses	59
Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	91

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	58
Occasional Slaughterings (Farms, etc.)	28
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	130
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	10
Other Food Premises	185
Cowsheds inspected	8
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	75

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	197
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SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Served during 1950	Complied with during 1950	Out- standing on 31/12/50
Informal Public Health Act Notices	572	561	232
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	42	57	30
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	3	—	3
Total	617	618	265

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Dwelling Houses:

Cleansed	.....	6
Vermin Disinfestation	.....	39
Air Space improved	.....	—
Lighting improved	.....	—
Ventilation improved	.....	4
Windows repaired	.....	36
Walls rendered free from dampness	.....	34
Plasterwork repaired	.....	66
Floors re-laid or repaired	.....	27
Woodwork renewed or repaired	.....	20
Fireplaces and grates repaired	.....	22
Kitchen boilers repaired	.....	23
Cooking facilities improved	.....	22
Food stores improved	.....	7
Coal stores improved	.....	21
Washing accommodation provided or improved	.....	10
Internal water supply provided	.....	1
Roofs repaired	.....	59
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	.....	19
Chimney stacks repaired	.....	22
Damp proof course provided	.....	1
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	.....	45
Yards and passages paved or repaired	.....	11
Yards cleansed	.....	5
Living vans removed	.....	4
Miscellaneous defects remedied	.....	9
Baths provided	.....	5

Drainage:

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	.....	44
Drains cleansed	.....	50
Gullies provided or repaired	.....	23
Inspection Chambers provided or repaired	.....	35
Ventilators repaired	.....	2
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	.....	—
Cesspools repaired	.....	—
Cesspools abolished	.....	4

Cesspools cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Drains connected to sewer	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Length of drainage examined	.....	.....	.....	yards	553

Sinks:

New sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
New sink waste pipes provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Sink waste pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	10

Closet Accommodation:

Buildings repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Closets cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Water closet pedestals renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Water closet service pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Closet pails renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	79

Ashplaces, Ashbins, etc.

Defective ashbins renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	155
Ashplaces and middens abolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Ashbins provided in lieu of ashplaces and middens	.....	.....	.....	.....	—

Miscellaneous:

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Accumulation removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Manure pits provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Urinals repaired and cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	.....	.....	.....	.....	41
Other nuisances abated	.....	.....	.....	.....	9

Summary of Legal Action for Enforcement of Notices. Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 93. Proceedings for the enforcement of notices in respect of 33 & 35, New Lane, Hilcote, resulted in :—

- (a) Making of Nuisance Order with costs £2 19s.
- (b) Fine of £4, with costs £3 3s.

Section 45. Work was carried out by the Council, and the costs recovered in one case.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The Council's policy of conversion of pail closets to the water carriage system has continued, and resulted in 205 conversions, as compared with 124 in 1949, and it is intended to considerably increase this rate during 1951. The hamlet of Westhouses is now completely on the water carriage system and at the close of the year the Engineer had arranged Contracts with a view to all outstanding work being carried out by the District Council. A very large proportion of the existing pail closets are the property of the National Coal Board and negotiations are in hand to speed up the programme for the conversion of these.

The number of pail closets in use is 1,334, distributed as follows :—

Pinxton	436
South Normanton	273
Blackwell	408
Tibshelf	217
Total	<u>1,334</u>

Alterations and the conversion of Sanitary conveniences were carried out during the year as follows :—

	South Normanton	Parish of Pinxton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Pail closets converted to water closets	47	81	76	1	205
Pail closets abolished	—	—	—	—	—
Privies converted to pail closets	—	—	—	—	—
Additional water closets provided	—	1	1	1	3

HOUSING.

There has been a slight improvement in the rate of housing repairs, 146 houses have been rendered fit as compared with 129 houses during 1949. Systematic inspections for housing defects have not yet been re-commenced, only those properties having been dealt with which have come before the department as a result of complaints or inspections for other purposes. The continuing difficulty with labour and materials, together with the increased cost of repairs and restrictions on rent increases, makes this one of the department's most difficult problems. Many more notices could be issued as there is a marked deterioration in the general standard of much pre-war property, but it is difficult to foresee how they could all be carried out.

Three houses have been inspected in connection with applications for Improvement Grants, but no decisions had been made at the year end, chiefly due to licensing restrictions.

An informal notice asking for the repair of a fixed coal fired washing copper was returned to the department with a reference to the Beeston and Stapleford U.D.C. Case re washing accommodation : after many enquiries and in view of a Counsel opinion obtained, it was decided not to serve any Statutory Notices in respect of washing accommodation. The provision of accommodation for household washing is of great importance in a mining area, and future legislation should be more precise as to the minimum requirements in this direction.

A total of 44 (36 Council, 6 private) new houses have been completed, and 34 cases of overcrowding abated. In spite of this the need for additional houses is very urgent, and unless the rate of house erection can be considerably speeded up, the problems caused by overcrowding and two families living in one house will remain for many years.

Details of overcrowding, and of houses subject to Demolition Orders, are set out below:—

Parish	No of Houses Overcrowded on 31st Dec., 1950	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1950	No. of Persons affected by abatement
South Normanton	28	11	80
Pinxton	14	10	63
Blackwell	5	6	44
Tibshelf	4	7	52
	51	34	239

Houses subject to Demolition Orders (Section 11 and Clearance Areas):

	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Still occupied	1	19	2	1	23
Vacant and awaiting demolition (derelict)	7	13	2	3	25
Total	8	32	4	4	48

Four houses subject to Demolition Orders are in use under the provisions of the Defence (General Regulations), as follows:—

Regulation 68a : Two houses.

Regulation 51 : (requisitioned by Council) two houses.

Eradication of Vermin.

The steady decline in the number of bed bug infestations and re-infestations, due to improved vermicides, has continued. No case of bug infestation has been dealt with the chief work under this heading having been devoted to cockroach eradication.

During the year, 102 visits were made, and details of the work carried out are given below :—

Cockroaches.

Number of Council houses disinfested	30
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Other Vermin.

Number of Council houses disinfested for Woodbeetles	2
Number of private houses disinfested for Fleas	2
Number of private and Council houses disinfested for Ants	4
Total	8

The whole of this work has been carried out by the Council's trained staff, the following methods being used:—

Cockroaches	Floor boards removed near fireplaces, skirtings, etc., eased and sprayed with Gammexane powder (D.034) by means of a foot pump.
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Ants	Spraying with Gammexane powder (D.034) and special Ant Poison.
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Woodbeetles	Spraying with Gammexane liquid (L.044).
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Fleas	Spraying with Bombay Fluid (containing D.D.T.)
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SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Chesterfield Municipal Abattoir continued to be used as the regional slaughterhouse for the area, but during the period of the peak killing (October—December) a number of private slaughterhouses were temporarily opened, including the premises of Messrs. W. H. Brown & Sons, High Street, Tibshelf. During a period of 7 weeks, 1,230 animals were slaughtered at these premises, all of which were carefully examined. As the Ministry of Food had no consultation with the local authority prior to opening this private slaughterhouse, and killing frequently took place until 10 p.m., a severe strain was placed on your staff in effectively dealing with this work, in addition to other work planned without knowledge of the Ministry of Food's intentions.

Careful attention has been paid to the conditions under which meat and other food is stored, prepared for sale and transported. For this purpose 411 inspections have been made and 13 notices served and complied with, details of which are given below. One complaint regarding improper cleansing of drinking vessels was also dealt with.

Improvements under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, include :—3 new shop floors ; 4 cleansing of walls, ceilings and floors ; 2 improvements of natural lighting and ventilation ; 2 improved storage facilities ; 2 provision of hot water supplies ; 1 provision of towels ; 1 improved refuse storage and 1 case of improved sanitary accommodation. In one instance it was necessary to draw attention to careless handling of meat during delivery (Public Health (Meat) Regulations), and in two cases warnings were issued regarding failure to observe the newly introduced Food Bye-laws.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined.

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Emergency	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cottagers	—	—	—	60	—	—
M/F temporary slaughter-houses	100	38	65	—	876	151
	100	38	66	61	876	151

Unsound Food.

During the year 8,731 lbs. of meat and meat offal were condemned, in addition to a large quantity of tinned goods. Two-thirds of the amount of meat and meat offal condemnations were due to Tuberculosis, and five localised cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* were detected. In these cases the affected parts were condemned and the carcasses sent to cold storage.

Condemnation for Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	2	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	76	16	19	5	117	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other Tuberculosis	75	42	28·8	8·2	13·5	6·0

Condemnation for Tuberculosis only.

	Cows	B'locks	Heifers	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	—	1	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	46	2	15	4	—	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	50	5·5	10·5	6·6	—	2·0

Details of Food condemned for Tuberculosis :

Beef	.....	3,006 lbs.
Beef offal	.....	2,691 „
Pork	.....	46 „
Pork offal	.....	20 „
Veal	.....	38 „
Veal offal	.....	14 „

Details of Food condemned for Diseases other than Tuberculosis :

Beef	.....	176 lbs.
Beef offal	.....	1,626 „
Pork offal	.....	13 „
Mutton	.....	205 „
Mutton offal	.....	553 „
Veal	.....	283 „
Veal offal	.....	60 „

Other Food condemned :

Tinned Meat	.....	280 lbs.
Other Tinned Goods	.....	1,299 tins
Bottled Fruit	.....	56 bots.
Sauce and Salad Cream, etc.	.....	23 bots.
Cereals and Pudding Mixture	.....	39 pkts.
Sweetened Cooking Fat	.....	7 lbs.
Bacon	.....	62 lbs.
Rabbits	.....	41 lbs.
Danish Maws	.....	694 lbs.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

In February, 1950, the District Council adopted new Bye-laws dealing with the Handling, Wrapping and Transport of Food, and to bring these to the notice of all concerned a series of mobile exhibitions with film shows were held in November, in all parishes. Over 4,000 persons attended these exhibitions and there is evidence that they have done much to secure improvements in the handling of food.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Number of Licences issued	37
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Sheep are exempt from the use of a humane killer.

MILK DISTRIBUTION.

The supervision of the distribution of milk in the area has continued to receive careful attention. For this purpose 83 inspections have been made, 62 samples obtained and 19 notices forwarded regarding contraventions. Improvements affected by these notices are :—

Dairies cleansed	.....	2
Cleansing of utensils and churns	.....	5
Provision of hot water supplies	.....	1
Provision of towels and soap	.....	1
Name, etc., on vans	.....	1
Removal of milk bottles from pavements	.....	8

Details of Milk Premises.

(a) Registered distributors	.....	16
(b) Registered dairies	.....	9
(c) Dairy farmers (retailing in area)	.....	40
(d) Dairy farmers (selling wholesale)	.....	23
(e) Dairy farms (not in use)	.....	12

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS)

(RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of dealers' licences issued	.....	11
Number of supplementary licences issued	.....	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS)

(PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK)

REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of dealers' licences issued	.....	12
Number of supplementary licences issued	.....	1

MILK SAMPLES.

New Milk.

Biological	40 satisfactory
Examination	2 Positive Tuberculosis

Pasteurised Milk.

Methylene	
Blue Test	7 satisfactory
Phosphatase Test	12 satisfactory

Sterilised Milk.

Turbidity Test	1 satisfactory
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As a result of the two positive samples four cows were removed from the dairy herds and slaughtered. Pending the clearing up of these difficulties, arrangements were made for all the milk from these two herds to be pasteurised.

There has been an increase in the number of licences granted for the sale of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milk, which is now being more extensively retailed to the exclusion of raw milk.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply to the district has generally been both satisfactory in quantity and quality, and all district council samples examined have been reported as suitable. A small number of houses are supplied by adjoining authorities, and samples in these cases have been reported as unsuitable. These reports were dealt with by the adjoining authorities by improved chlorination and flushing of mains, and subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory. One well supply of water has been closed and the affected bungalow connected to the district's piped supply.

27 samples of water have been bacteriologically examined and reported upon as follows :—

District supply	..	18	satisfactory
Well supply	..	2	unsuitable
Alfreton U.D. supply	...	1	satisfactory
	.....	1	unsuitable
Chesterfield Joint Water Board	..	3	unsuitable
	...	2	satisfactory

It will be noted from the following schedule that 99.95 per cent. of the houses in the area are supplied with water from the Council's main :—

	Houses	Percentage
Number of houses without district water supply and using well water, etc.	3	.05
Number of houses without an internal water supply, but using external stand pipes served by district water supply (Stand pipes vary from 1 to 1 house to 1 to 6 houses)	189	3.57
Number of houses with an internal supply of district water	5,184	96.43

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

During recent years there has been an increase in the number of persons retailing ice-cream, and in the quantity sold. This is no longer a seasonable trade, and whilst a quantity sold loose is still large, the sale of pre-packed ice-cream is steadily increasing. All shops retailing ice-cream are required to provide a cubicle or suitable screen to separate the ice-cream from the rest of the premises, and there has been a great improvement in the vehicles from which ice-cream is retailed in the street.

Five notices have been served and complied with dealing with the improper manufacture of lollipops, storage and cooling of heated mixture and the protection of refrigerators.

The samples of ice-cream examined by the Methylene Blue test show an improvement on the previous year, 74.5% being in Grades I and II as against 67.3% in 1949.

Details of registration and results of samples are set out in the following tables :—

Premises Registered.

(a) Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	5
(b) Sale of ice-cream	4
(c) Sale of pre-packed ice-cream	27
Total	36

Results of Ice Cream Samples.

Ice Cream	Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.	Total
Complete Cold Mix	8	5	2	1	16
Pasteurised	1	5	2	4	12
Pre-packed	12	7	4	—	23
Total	21	17	8	5	51

Samples examined for Fat Content 25

of these 6 were under 5% fat
 10 had from 5% — 10% fat
 8 had from 10% — 15% fat
 1 had over 15% fat.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

For the administration of these powers the Council employ one part-time rodent operator, and in addition a full-time assistant is available for this work as required. Both have been fully trained by the Ministry of Food.

As a matter of routine all Council refuse tips and sewage works are examined monthly, and this work has kept these premises free from serious infestation. In almost all cases

where private premises are infested, the work of eradication is carried out by the Council's staff at the occupier's cost.

A total of 318 inspections and visits have been made and 19 notices served and complied with. One warning regarding failure to fence ricks prior to threshing was issued and 13 complaints dealt with.

Summary of work done:

	Council premises	Private premises	Total
Number of premises visited	73	24	97
Estimated number of rats killed by dogs, ferrets, etc.	109	—	109
Number of pre-baits laid	196	1,080	1,276
Number of post-baits laid	—	106	106
Number of poison baits laid	43	301	344
Number of burrows gassed	—	—	—

Treatment of Sewer Inspection Chambers.

The two normal maintenance treatments of the sewer inspection chambers were carried out, with the assistance of a hired van.

Number of sewer inspection chambers treated	232
Number of pre-bait takes	86
Number of complete pre-bait takes	40

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There are no recognised camping grounds in the area, but the continuance of open cast mining in the district and difficulty in securing housing accommodation has resulted in a number of temporary dwellings being used. The total number of licences in operation under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269) is 5, compared with 6 in 1949. All these premises have been satisfactorily maintained.

Factory Act, 1937.

A total of 79 inspections have been made, and 2 notices complied with. The following improvements have been effected :—

Factories cleansed	1
Closet accommodation cleansed and improved	1

Petroleum Regulations.

Number of premises licensed	.....	29
Number of notices served and complied with	.....	5

Ministry of Health Circular, 77/48.

Burning Spoilbanks.

The system of routine inspection of all spoilbanks, accompanied by the National Coal Board Engineers, has been maintained. Four of these spoilbanks are partly on fire. The areas of fire have been effectively dealt with during the year with water spray systems, no serious nuisance has arisen and no complaints have been received.

Shops Acts.

No notices or action has been taken during the year under these Acts.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council undertake the collection and disposal of refuse by direct labour in the whole of the Southern Area.

Collection and Disposal.

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of 3,647 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 29,662 miles.

Two S. & D. Freighters (10½ cub. yds.), supplied July, 1949.

One 4/5 ton Austin, supplied July, 1942.

One Karrier Bantam, supplied September, 1939.

Number of premises served.

Ashbins	.....	5,558	(cleansed weekly)
Ashplaces	.....	2	(cleansed monthly)
Privies and Middens		6	(cleansed monthly)
Closet Pails	.....	1,334	(cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	.....	46	(cleansed quarterly)

Maintenance of a satisfactory staff of workmen has continued to be difficult, there have been many changes in workmen during the year and this must inevitably affect the standard of the service. A regular weekly collection of refuse has been maintained, but cesspool cleansing and tip maintenance has frequently been in arrears. The two new S. & D. Freighters have given very good service and have largely contributed to the efficiency of the refuse collection system.

Vehicle maintenance and repairs, except for major jobs, continues to be carried out by the Council's own staff, and is without doubt the most satisfactory way of dealing with this work. The cost of repairs is kept at a reasonable level, and the time lost through repairs and breakdowns was as low as one day. No private hire of lorries was necessary.

Again I must point out that this vehicle maintenance work, so essential to the smooth working of your refuse collection service, is carried out under unsatisfactory conditions. The hired garages are completely unsuitable and I hope that the recommendations to erect a new depot and garages will be proceeded with as quickly as possible.

All dry refuse is disposed of by tipping (controlled so far as labour and materials permit), and as much salvage material as possible is removed, chiefly dirty paper, tins, metal and rags. The removal of this material is of considerable help in securing consolidation of the refuse. Three tips are at present being used, and of the two completed tips one has been soiled and seeded, and work on final levelling and soiling down is in progress on the other tip.

The Muledozer, delivered in October, 1949, has enabled much better progress to be made with tip maintenance, and in two cases tips have been satisfactorily completed and made available for agricultural use. Without the Muledozer or the hire of earth moving equipment at a very high rate, this work could not possibly have been accomplished with the labour available.

No facilities are available for weighing refuse. The estimated yield (having regard to test weighings) of dry refuse is 25 cwts. per 1,000 population per day; or 1.5 tons per house per annum.

Costs.	1950/51	1949/50
Total cost (collection and disposal of dry refuse, night soil and cesspool contents)	£ 8,230	£ 8,629
Cost per annum per 1,000 population	441	462
Cost per annum per 1,000 houses	1,531	1,617

Increases in wages, additional holidays and sickness with pay, and increases in the cost of materials and equipment has resulted in a gradual increase in the cost of this service over the past few years.

Below are set out details of the work performed by each vehicle, and the comparative running cost of each vehicle:—

Work done by Lorries:

Lorry	Cleansing	Mileage Salvage	Total	Refuse	Loads removed Night Soil	Cesspool contents	No. of other journeys (chiefly Salvage)
Karrier Bantam (1939) GRA 810	2,791	768	3,559	7	4	—	438
Austin 4½ ton (1942) HRA 287	9,586	3,389	12,975	272	793	348	731
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	6,195	—	6,195	1,083	—	—	21
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 729	6,933	—	6,933	1,140	—	—	30
	25,505	4,157	29,662	2,502	797	348	1,220

Comparative Costs of Operation of Lorries :

(less Drivers' Wages and Depreciation charges)

Lorry	Repairs, Maintenance, Tyres, etc.	Licences and Insurance	Petrol and Oil	Total	Cost per mile
	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
GRA 810 (2 tons)	23 19 1	35	62 15 0	121 14 1	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
HRA 287 (4½ tons)	164 1 9	69	300 8 7	533 10 4	10
NRA 729 (S. & D.)	73 14 6	80	187 9 11	341 4 5	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
NRA 730	70 2 9	80	177 14 9	327 17 6	1/0 $\frac{3}{4}$
	331 18 1	264	728 8 3	1,324 6 4	10 $\frac{3}{4}$

Muledozer.

During the year this machine has been operated for 1,284½ hours as follows :—

Newton Wood Refuse Tip	289	hours
Pinxton Wharf Road Refuse Tip	340 $\frac{3}{4}$	„
South Normanton Berristow Lane Refuse Tip	317	„
Tibshelf Cricket Field Refuse Tip	127	„
Blackwell Quarry Refuse Tip	18	„
South Normanton Sewage Works	170 $\frac{1}{2}$	„
Private Hire	22	„

The total cost of operation of this machine allowing 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. of original cost for depreciation is £540 16s. 11d., equivalent to 8/8d. per hour. The minimum charge for the hire of similar equipment is 12/6d. per hour, which shows a saving of £248 4s. 10d. as against hire charges.

SALVAGE.

The returns for the recovery and disposal of salvage since this work was commenced ten years ago are shown below:

1950-51: 294 tons 9 cwts. 70 lbs.	£1,466	7	6.
1949-50: 291 tons 8 cwts. 0 lbs.	£881	7	7.
1948-49: 390 tons 16 cwts. 54 lbs.	£1,553	6	7.
1947-48: 301 tons 4 cwts. 43 lbs.	£1,489	19	3.
1946-47: 271 tons 13 cwts. 98 lbs.	£1,049	16	2.
1945-46: 286 tons 14 cwts. 93 lbs.	£905	7	9.
1944-45: 353 tons 19 cwts. 26 lbs.	£1,161	0	6.
1943-44: 458 tons 16 cwts. 56 lbs.	£1,392	18	2.
1942-43: 631 tons 7 cwts. 30 lbs.	£1,937	14	10.
1941-42: 465 tons 4 cwts. 30 lbs.	£1,283	8	3.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below:

	Tons	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	114	17	56	910	19	9
Ferrous metal	30	19	84	25	19	10
Non-ferrous metal	5	68		24	7	10
Rubber	13	56		19	6	
Textiles	6	14	51	138	12	1
Bones	3	5	84	18	17	5
Bottles and Jars	26	14	93	123	7	7
Cullet	25	8	0	31	18	9
Kitchen waste	74	14	110	182	4	0
Miscellaneous	10	15	28	6	0	9

At the commencement of the year difficulty was still being experienced with waste paper disposal, but the market gradually improved and in July the Council entered into a five years Contract with the Thames Board Mills for the sale of the whole of their waste paper collections. The securing of this Contract and subsequent developments have fully justified the policy of continuing waste paper salvage, and have enabled a reasonable rate of collection to be maintained.

The N. E. Derbyshire Cleansing and Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet monthly, and has been of considerable help in dealing with some of the problems which have arisen. One of the most helpful features of this Committee is the willingness with which information is exchanged between adjoining districts.

GENERAL.

The housing of the population continues to be the major problem. A total of 242 post-war houses have now been erected, but unless the rate of house erection can be considerably increased many families will be forced to live two and three families in a house for many more years.

Good progress has been made with pail closet conversions and with the scheme now being operated by the Engineer, the date when practically the whole of the district will be on the water carriage system is not far ahead.

The lack of routine housing inspections is reflected in the steadily increasing number of complaints being received. The number having risen from 158 in 1945 to 241 during the present year. These complaints include 83 regarding housing defects, 56 drainage defects, 19 dirty and verminous premises, 19 defective sanitary conveniences, and 13 regarding rat infestation.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the manner in which staff and workmen have carried out their duties, and for the excellent co-operation of colleagues in other departments.

ROBERT CLARKSON, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector, Southern Area.

